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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) 25X1
TOPIC Military Information from Ruerstenwalde
INTELLIGENCE EVALUATION no below 25X1
DATE OF CONTENT 1 to 18 December 1951
DATE PREPARED 7 February 1962 25X1
PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)
REMARKS
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1. Up to 5 December 1951, two large buildings in the western section of the Roiter Kaserne, Ruerstenwalde (N 53/V 33), on the road to Draunsdorf, were vacant. Intensive training activity by troops with red-bordered black epaulets was noticed in the training area adjoining the barracks installation and in the woods at the target ranges. Two wooden sheds had been completed at the target ranges by 5 December; several more sheds of the same type are under construction. The sheds were guarded by a detail of 1 NCO and 4 PM.

2. On 1 and 5 December, seven and ten T-34/85 tanks respectively were seen leaving the Pionier Kaserne on Gartenstrasse and returning to the installation only after nightfall. A telephone section of 1 officer and 15 men with black epaulets was seen in the billeting area. No training activity was noticed on 18 December.

3. The number of troops in the Fliegerhorst Kaserne fluctuated continuously in early December. German craftsmen said that there was a continual turnover of personnel; small details of soldiers arrived and departed. The same informant said that the troops in the installation averaged no more than 500 men. About 60 uniformed women were billeted in one of the rear buildings of the installation.

4. The military post hospital was located on Wilhelm-Kuelz-Strasse, opposite the komendatura on Friedrich-Engels-Strasse. The highschool building on the road to Mangelsberg was occupied by a small unit which included 20 to 30 officers. The number of PM belonging to this unit could not be specified. A conference held there on or about 11 December was attended by four generals as well as other officers. (u)

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5. On 6 December, the Pionier Kaserne was occupied by a unit of soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. About 300 recruits were seen drilling in the barracks yard, while another 300 recruits received close-order drill and training in firing at the adjoining drill field. Three tanks and 1 SP gun were seen standing at the drill field.

5. On 6 December, the Reiter Kaserne quartered an undetermined number of troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Some of the senior personnel wore artillery insignia. About 250 unarmed recruits received basic drill in the barracks yard in squads of 15 men each, while other troops were engaged in record practice on the target ranges.

7. On 12 December, the Pionier Kaserne was occupied by a tank unit. Fresh imprints of tank treads were noticed in the vicinity of the installation.

Comments.

- (1) The information indicates that the Reiter Kaserne still quarters components of the 26th Gds Mecz Regt of the 7th Gds Mecz Div.
- (2) After the 1951 summer maneuvers, the Pionier Kaserne has been believed to quarter the unidentified tank training battalion of the 7th Gds Mecz Div; the headquarters and headquarters units of this division have not been confirmed in this installation. The present report confirms the tank training battalion and is vaguely indicative of the division's 147th (?) Gds Sig Bn which was quartered in the Pionier Kaserne prior to the 1951 summer maneuvers. The tank training battalion is believed to have, among other components, only two tank components, one of them having about 10 T-34 tanks and the other about 10 JS-1, JS-2, JS-3 tanks and SP guns in all. Some of the 17 T-34 tanks mentioned in the present report are probably assigned to another unit which may be the division's 5th Gds Mtrcl Bn previously quartered in the Pionier Kaserne in the spring of 1951. The battalion's T/E provides for 10 T-34 or T-44 tanks.
- (3) The Fliegerhorst Kaserne is believed to quarter a regiment of the unidentified AAA Div of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army.
- (4) once before reported that the high school on the road to Mangelsberg had been occupied by about 120 troops at the end of May 1951. See The present report is not specific enough as to determine the identity of the unit quartered there. It may be a headquarters unit of the 7th Gds Mecz Div.

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